

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06

OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01

PRS-01 /114 W

-----019665 232235Z /21

R 231522Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8915

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USCINCSO

CINCLANT

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 8370

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, VE, CU, UR

SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN-USSR AGREEMENT ON OIL SHIPMENTS

TO CUBA REPORTEDLY STILL IN LIMBO

REF: 76 CARACAS 14481 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO TWO WIDELY DIVERSE SOURCES, THE AGREEMENT SIGNED DURING PRESIDENT PEREZ' VISIT TO THE USSR IN NOVEMBER 1976 UNDER WHICH THE USSR WOULD SUPPLY CRUDE OIL TO VENEZUELA'S CUSTOMERS IN WESTERN EUROPE WHILE VENEZUELA WOULD SUPPLY CUBA HAS NOT YET BEEN IMPLEMENTED. ON AUGUST 19, DR. ALIRIO PARRA, PETROLEOS DE VENEZUELA DIRECTOR IN CHARGE OF EXPORT MARKETING, TOLD THE EMBASSY PETROLEUM OFFICER THAT PETROLEOS WAS STILL DISCUSSING DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIETS. HE WAS VERY SPECIFIC IN STATING
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THAT SHIPMENTS HAD NOT TAKEN PLACE UNDER THE AGREEMENT. A FEW DAYS EARLIER, THE WEST GERMAN ECONOMIC COUNSELOR TOLD US HE HAD ASKED THE SOVIET POLITICAL COUNSELOR HERE ABOUT THE AGREEMENT, AND WAS TOLD THAT IT HAS FADED AWAY OR, AS THE SOVIET PUT IT, HAD BEEN VENEZUELANIZED, AND THAT NOTHING IS EXPECTED TO COME OF IT.

2. COMMENT. THERE WERE EARLY INDICATIONS THAT OFFICIALS OF

PETROLEOS DE VENEZUELA, THE STATE HOLDING COMPANY FOR THE NATIONALIZED OIL INDUSTRY, WERE UNHAPPY WITH THE AGREEMENT, CONSIDERING IT AN INFRINGEMENT ON THEIR RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXPORT MARKETING. ANOTHER, MORE PRACTICAL CONCERN MAY BE THEIR DESIRE TO AVOID CRITICISM FROM THE US, THEIR MAJOR MARKET, SHOULD THEY GET OUT IN FRONT ON THE ISSUE OF TRADE WITH CUBA. IN THIS REGARD, PARRA NOTED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE US EMBARGO ON TRADE WITH CUBA WAS STILL IN EFFECT; WE CONFIRMED THAT IT IS.
FRECHETTE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE AGREEMENTS, PETROLEUM TRANSPORTATION, FOREIGN TRADE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1520931
Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: ENRG, ETRD, VE, UR, CU
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